

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0368

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR SCUL CH

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING WITH PREMIER CHOU EN- LAI

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF TWO- HOUR MEETING EVENING 15 JUNE GRANTED BY PREMIER CHOU EN- LAI TO VISITING DELEGATION OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON UNITED STATES- CHINA RELATIONS AS DESCRIBED TO USLO PEKING OFFICERS BY SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS.

2. SINO- U. S. RELATIONS - PREMIER CHOU HAD NOTHING NEW TO SAY ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO SECRETARY DULLES AS " THE MAN WHO PLANTED THE BAD SEEDS AND REFUSED TO SHAKE HANDS" IN GENEVA IN 1954.

3. JAPAN - CHOU SAID IT TOOK TWENTY YEARS TO OVERCOME CHINA' S RESENTMENT TOWARD JAPAN SO THAT RELATIONS COULD FINALLY BE RE- ESTABLISHED. IT WAS NOT SO DIFFICULT TO CHANGE ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES.

4. USSR - SOCIAL IMPERIALISM IS WORSE THAN ANY OTHER KIND " CH' IAO KUAN- HUA HAS SAID THIS TWICE (AT U. N.) AND NOW I WILL SAY IT ONCE AGAIN". CHOU EXPRESSED HIS APPROVAL OF MELVIN LAIRD' S COMMENT AFTER THE SIGNING OF SALT AGREEMENT THAT U. S. SHOULD NOT STOP
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DEVELOPING WEAPONS SYSTEMS OR REDUCE IPS DEFENSES. TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U. S. AND THE USSR, CHO SAID, WERE NOT HIS CONCERN. THE SOVIETS WANT TO EXPORT PETROLEUM AND COAL (CHOU PROBABLY MEANT NATURAL GAS, CALLED " COAL GAS" IN CHINA), AND FOR THIS THEY NEED FOREIGN INVESTMENT. " THEY WANT TO SAVE THEIR OWN CAPITAL FOR ARMA-MENTS."

5. DISARMAMENT - CHINA WILL NOT AGREE TO END NUCLEAR TESTING. CHINA IS ONLY TRYING TO DEVELOP A DEFENSIVE CAPABILITY; IT WOULD NEVER BE THE FIRST TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE ONLY FORM OF DISARMAMENT ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE' S REPUBLIC IS THE TOTAL ABOLISHMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, WHICH IN ANY CASE ARE AN ENORMOUS WASTE OF MONEY. " YOU CAN' T EAT THEM AND CAN' T WEAR THEM," SAID CHOU.

6. INDOCHINA - ASKED FOR HIS VIEWS ON THE NEW PARIS AGREEMENT, CHOU SDID THIEU IS THE PROBLEM. " THERE ARE SIGNS THAT HE WILL NOT AGREE". CHOU SEEMED TO INDICATE SOME LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR SIHANOUK, SAYING " WE HAD TO TAKE HIM," AND " HE DOESN' T CALL HIMSELF PRINCE ANYMORE BUT HE STILL THINKS HE IS ONE." THE WHOLE OF INDOKHINA, SAID CHOU, SHOULD

BE LEFT ALONE. NIXON' S DIFFICULTY, HE ADDED, IS THAT HE FEARS HE WILL BE BLAMED FOR LOSING THE AREA.

7. UN - THE UN MUST BECOME AN ORGAN OF POWER FOR ALL; OTHERWISE, IT COULD END LIKE THE LEAGUE. " BEFORE WE WERE IN THE UN, WE COULD STAND OUTSIDE AND CRITICIZE; NOW WE MUST ACT WITH RESPECT AND JUSTICE. WE HAD TO VETO ON BANGLADESH, NOT FOR OURSELVES BUT FOR OTHERS."

8. TRABE AND ECONOMY - SINO- U. S. TRADE MUST DEVELOP, SAID CHOU, BUT PROGRESSIVELY, STEP BY STEP. THE MAJOR U. S. EXPORTS TO CHINA ARE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, BUT CHINA CAN' T BECOME DEPENDENT ON FOODSTUFFS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. " WE MUST RELY ON OUR OWN EFFORTS, ESPECIALLY TO OVERCOME NATURAL DISASTERS THAT AFFECT OUR CROPS. WITH DROUGHT IN THE NORTH AND FLOODING IN THE SOUTH, THE WEATHER FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS HAS NOT BEEN NORMAL." ASKED ABOUT OIL, CHOU PUT ON A DELIBERATELY MYSTERIOUS EXPRESSION AND ANSWERED THAT PROSPECTING HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED. HE REJECTED THE IDEA OF JOINT EXPLOITATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OF CHINESE NATURAL RESOURCES, BUT HE INDICATED THAT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY, WAS WELCOME. IN ANY CASE CHINA WANTED TO MOVE SLOWLY AND RELIABLY. CONFIDENTIAL

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" SINCE WE DO NOT SEEK HEGEMONY, WE CAN AFFORD TO GROW MORE SLOWLY," HE SAID. QUOTING A FIGURE OF 14 MILLION TONS OF CRUDE OIL EXPECTED TO BE PRODUCED THIS YEAR, THEN INDICATING HE WAS NOT SURE THIS WAS THE RIGHT AMOUNT, CHOU ADDED, " WHATEVER THE RIGHT FIGURE IS, IT WILL BE ENOUGH FOR CHINA' S REQUIREMENTS AND THERE WILL EVEN BE A LITTLE LEFT OVER TO EXPORT."

9. USINO- JAPANESE AIR AGREEMENT - CHOU SAID HE DID NOT OBJECT TO JAPAN CONTINUING TO FLY TO TAIWAN. IN A NOVEL FORMULATION, CHOU SAID HIS ONLY OBJECTION IS TO THE TAIWANESE INSISTENCE ON CALLING THEIR AIRLINE A NATIONAL AIRLINE. " IF THEY CALLED IT TAIWAN AIRLINES OF CHINA, THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM."

10. CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROPOSALS - CHOU DID NOT PRESENT ANY DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE EXCHANGE PROPOSALS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE, AS HE HAD PREVIOUSLY DONE WITH THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY COMMUN-

ICATION. HE INDICATED THAT THE WIDER RANGE OF INTERESTS COVERED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE' S PROPOSALS WOULD REQUIRE MORE ELABORATE AND LENGTHY CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CHINESE RECEPTION ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED. PRIOR TO THEIR MEETING WITH PREMIER CHOU, THE CHINESE HAD INDICATED AN INTEREST IN SENDING TO THE STATES BADMINTON, MARTIAL ARTS(WU SHU), AND REVOLUTIONARY OPERA GROUPS. THE NATINAL COMMITTEE HOPES TO HAVE MORE DEFINITE INFORMATIM ON THESE GROUPS AND THEIR FORMAL EXCHANGE PROPOSALS BEFORE LEAVING CHINA VIA HONG KONG.

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